

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5525

To amend the Small Business Act to improve the National Veterans Business Development Corporation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 2008

Mr. FILNER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to improve the National Veterans Business Development Corporation.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Inclusion of Veteran
5 Service Organizations in the National Veterans Business
6 Development Corporation Board Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT OF NATIONAL VETERANS BUSINESS**
8 **DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.**

9 (a) IMPROVEMENT.—Section 33(c) of the Small Busi-
10 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 657c(c)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “nine” and in-
2 serting “11”;

3 (2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the
4 following new paragraph (2):

5 “(2) APPOINTMENT OF VOTING MEMBERS.—

6 “(A) PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS.—

7 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The President
8 shall, after considering recommendations
9 submitted under clause (ii), appoint 7 of
10 the 11 voting members of the Board, all of
11 whom shall be United States citizens, and
12 not more than 5 of whom shall be mem-
13 bers of the same political party.

14 “(ii) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Rec-
15 ommendations shall be submitted to the
16 President for appointments under this sub-
17 paragraph by the chairman or ranking
18 member (or both) of the Committee on
19 Small Business and Entrepreneurship or
20 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs (or
21 both) of the Senate or the Committee on
22 Small Business or the Committee on Vet-
23 erans’ Affairs (or both) of the House of
24 Representatives.

1 “(B) CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS.—

2 The chairmen of the Committee on Small Busi-
3 ness and Entrepreneurship and the Committee
4 on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the
5 Committee on Small Business and the Com-
6 mittee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of
7 Representatives shall jointly appoint 4 of the 11
8 voting members of the Board who shall be rep-
9 resentatives of a congressionally chartered vet-
10 erans’ service organization or military service
11 organization.

12 “(C) LIMITATION ON INTERNAL REC-
13 COMMENDATIONS.—No member of the Board
14 may recommend an individual for appointment
15 to a position on the Board.”;

16 (3) in paragraph (3), by adding at the end the
17 following new sentences: “The president and direc-
18 tors of each of the 3 veterans business resource cen-
19 ters that have received grants from the Corporation
20 that are located in Flint, Michigan, St. Louis, Mis-
21 souri, and Boston, Massachusetts, shall provide ex-
22 pertise and advice to the Board of Directors, as ap-
23 propriate.”;

24 (4) in paragraph (6)(C), by striking the second
25 sentence and inserting the following new sentence:

1 “No member of the Board may serve after the expi-
2 ration of the term for which that member is ap-
3 pointed.”; and

4 (5) by adding at the end the following new
5 paragraphs:

6 “(12) REMOVAL OF MEMBERS.—With the ap-
7 proval of a majority of the Board of Directors and
8 the approval of the chairmen and ranking members
9 of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepre-
10 neurship and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of
11 the Senate, the Corporation may remove a member
12 of the Board who is determined to be unable to ful-
13 fill the member’s duties under this section.

14 “(13) MEETINGS.—All meetings of the Board
15 of Directors shall be conducted in public and mem-
16 bers of the general public shall have access to such
17 meetings. The Board shall record minutes for each
18 meeting and make such minutes available on the
19 Internet website of the Corporation. Two meetings
20 shall be held in Washington, DC, each year.

21 “(14) NOTICE TO STAKEHOLDERS.—The Board
22 of Directors shall establish a list of stakeholders in
23 the Corporation and shall, to the extent possible,
24 provide to each individual on the list notice of the
25 meetings and agenda of the Board. If providing such

1 notice is not possible, the Board shall make such no-
2 tice publicly available on the Internet website of the
3 Corporation.”.

4 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
5 33(c)(6)(B) of the Small Business Act (14 U.S.C.
6 657c(c)(6)(B)) is amended by striking “by the President”.

7 (c) CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS.—Not later
8 than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
9 two appointments shall be made under subparagraph (B)
10 of section 33(c)(2) of the Small Business Act, as added
11 by subsection (a). Upon the expiration of each the first
12 two terms of appointment of members of the Board of Di-
13 rectors of the National Veterans Business Development
14 Corporation that expire after the date of the enactment
15 of this Act, an additional appointment shall be made under
16 that subparagraph.

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